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Assam Legislative Assembly Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

SIXTH SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE FOURTH
GENERAL ELECTIONS UNDER THE SOV-
EREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN
CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

BUDGET SESSION

VOLUME I

NO.27

The 28th March, 1989



सत्यमेव जयते

1987

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Assam Legislative Assembly Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

IN THE SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE FOURTH
GENERAL ELECTIONS UNDER THE NEW
FREIGN DISCOUNT AND REPUBLICAN
CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

BY THE SECRETARY

VOLUME I

NO. 1

1937



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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DEBATES OF THE
ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1969
(BUDGET SESSION)

VOLUME I

NO. 27

The 28th March, 1969



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**Assam
Legislative Assembly Debates**

OFFICIAL REPORT

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE
ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED
AFTER THE FOURTH GENERAL ELEC-
TIONS UNDER THE SOVEREIGN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN
CONSTITUTION OF
INDIA

BUDGET SESSION

VOLUME I

NO. 27

The 28th March 1969

Proceedings of the Sixth Session of the Assam
Legislative Assembly assembled after the
Fourth General Elections under the
Sovereign Democratic Republican
Constitution of India.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong,
at 9 A. M. on Friday, the 28th, March, 1969.

P R E S E N T

Shri Mohi Kanta Das, M. A., B. L., Speaker,
in the Chair, Seven Ministers, Six Ministers of
State, Three Deputy Ministers and Seventy - Members.

Assam
Legislative Assembly Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE
ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED
AT THE FOURTH GENERAL ELEC-
TIONS UNDER THE SOVEREIGN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN
CONSTITUTION OF
INDIA

BUDGET SESSION

VOLUME I

NO. 2

The 28th March 1950

Proceedings of the Sixth Session of the Assam
Legislative Assembly assembled after the
fourth General Elections under the
Sovereign Democratic Republican
Constitution of India.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong,
on 28th March, 1950, at 10 A.M.

P R I N T

Printed by K. N. Das, M. A., B. L., Shillong.

In the Press, Seven Ministers, Six Members of
State, Three Deputy Ministers and Seven Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Further Supplementary to Starred Question No. 318 relating to Kamlabari Riverghat on the Brahmaputra replied on 27th March 1969.

Mr. Speaker :— We are still going on with the Question of 27th March 1969.

Shri Mahidhar Pegu :— মোৰ (খ) নং প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰত মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে কৈছে যে “উলুবাটত বৰ্তমান চৰকাৰৰ মাৰ-নাঙ আছে কিন্তু নদীৰ পানী বাম হোৱাৰ কাৰণেহে নাঙ চলাব পৰা নাই।” কিন্তু এই মাৰ নাঙখন special মাৰনাঙ, বিলিফৰ কাৰণে; যাত্ৰীৰ কাৰণে নহয় আৰু যোৱা ফেব্ৰুৱাৰী মাহৰ পৰা পানী বেছি হোৱা স্বত্বেও কিয় চলাব পৰা নাই?

Shri Probin Kumar Choudhury:— পানী বেছি হৈছিল যদিও এতিয়া কম হোৱা কাৰণে চলাব পৰা নাই।

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— ইয়াত যিখন মাৰবোত দিয়া হৈছে সেই মাৰবোতখন এনেকুৱা defective যে পানী বেছি হলেও চলাব নোৱাৰে আৰু কম হলেও চলাব নোৱাৰে। কাজেই এই নাঙখন পৰিৱৰ্তন কৰি নতুন এখন বদলি দি এই সংযোগ

পথটো বন্ধা কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা চৰকাৰে কৰিবনে ?

Probin Kumar Choudhury :— এইবাৰ বাজেটত ২ লাখ ৭০ হাজাৰ টকা ধৰা হৈছে আৰু তাৰ পৰাই এই নাওখন বদলাব পাৰিনেকি চেষ্টা কৰিব লাগিব।

Shri Mahidhar Pegu :— চাৰ, মোৰ প্ৰশ্নটোৰ উত্তৰ পোৱা নাই। মোৰ প্ৰশ্ন হৈছে এই নাওখন 'বিলিফৰ' কাৰণে ; যাত্ৰীৰ কাৰণে নহয়। যোৱা ফেব্ৰুৱাৰীৰ পৰা নদীত পানী যথেষ্ট হৈছে। তথাপি তথাং বুলি চলোৱা হোৱা নাই কিয় ?

Shri Probin Kumar Choudhury :— আমি খবৰ পাইছো যে পানী কম হোৱাৰ কাৰণে চলাব পৰা নাই।

Shri Jogen Saikia :— এইটো কথা তাত এখন জাহাজ ৰখা হৈছে, কিন্তু চলাব পৰা নাই ?

Shri Probin Kumar Choudhury :— সেইটো খবৰ পিচত দিব পৰা হ'ব, যদি এটা বেলেগ প্ৰশ্ন কৰা হয়।

Re : Number of Agents through which F. C. I. received paddy:

M. SHAMSUL HUDA asked :— 319. Will the Minister, Supply be pleased to state—

(a) The total number of hands (such as primary agents, Sub-agents and so on) through when paddy procured by the Government passes from the cultivator to the Assam Branch of the Food Co-

poration of India ?

(b) The total profit granted to all such agents on a quintal of paddy ?

(c) Why does not Food Corporation of India make direct purchase from the real cultivators ?

Shri RAMESH CHANDRA BAROOAH (Minister, Supply) replied :

319. (a) The Food Corporation of India receives paddy only from the agents appointed by it for procuring paddy by it for procuring paddy on its behalf.

(b) The Food Corporation of India grants these agents a Commission of Rs. 2.68 paise per quintal of paddy.

(c) It would not be economically feasible to procure paddy directly from the real cultivators on a large scale.

Shri Hiralal Patwary :— Sir, is it a fact that the F. C. I. has given agency for procuring paddy to the mill owners only ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah : The Food

Corporation of India do not appoint the millers as their agents.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the agency for procurement of paddy is given to the Co-operative Societies ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah :— Yes, F. C. I. has given agency to the Co-operative Societies. But if the Co-operative Societies do not come forward, they give agency to individual dealer also.

M. Shamsul Huda :— Sir, whether Government is aware that F. C. I. generally do not give agency to the individual dealers ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah :— Such complaint has not come to my notice yet.

M. Shamsul Huda :— In view of the fact that such complaint is going on all over the State, will the Minister be pleased to cause an enquiry ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah :— Sir, if the

honourable member can give me some specific cases, I will surely enquire, otherwise wide enquiry is not possible.

Bhadra Kanta Gogoi :— ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ চাচনি মৌজাৰ নাইব-কটিয়া অঞ্চলত এজন Employee ক ধান সংগ্ৰহ কৰিবলৈ দিয়া কথাটো চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি গোচৰ হৈছেনে?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah :— সেইটো চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি গোচৰ হোৱা নাই।

Shri Hiralal Patwary :— Sir, is it a fact that those dealers who are appointed as agents by the F. C. I., have been appointed on the recommendation of the millers?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah :— I have no knowledge of it. I have already said the Co-operative Societies are appointed as agents, but if they are not forthcoming, then the question of appointing other agents comes. For such complaints, if any specific cases is brought to my notice, I will surely look into it.

Shri Hiralal Patwary :— Sir, I can give you

so many complaints. The other day when I had been to Lakhimpur area, I came to know that this sort of agents gave Rs. 3 Lakhs to the growers.

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah :— Sir, instead of giving some concrete cases, if the honourable member bants me to bring Gandhamadan Parbat on my head like Hanuman can it be possible to find out what specific answer the honourable member wants?

(Uproar)

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :— Sir, there is nothing wrong in it. The Minister is asked to bring Gandhamadan-Parbat, because the honourable member knows that if Hanuman which is a monkey, could bring Gandhamadan Parbat and and Charaka or somebody could find out the medicine, the Minister should also be able to find out the reply.

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah :— Sir my reply to Shri Bhattacharyya is “অৰামিকেৰু কিবিসি মা লিম বসনিচেদনম্”

Shri Bhadraswar Gogoi :—ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমাত ধান সংগ্ৰহ কৰিবৰ কাৰণে কোন কোন Socety আৰু কোন কোন ব্যক্তিগত মানুহক দিয়া হৈছে নাম কেইটা জনাব পাৰেনে?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah :— চাৰ, সেইটো এই প্ৰশ্নৰ লগত জনাব নোৱাৰিম। তাৰ কাৰণে এটা বেলেগ প্ৰশ্ন দিলে জনাব পাৰিম।

M. Shamsul Huda :— Sir, in view of the fact that Government have not received any complaint to the effect that the F.C.I has not engaged persons recommended by the millers as their agents, may I request the Minister concerned whether it can solemnly affirm that no employees of millers have ever been appointed as the agents of F.C.I. ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah :— This is a repeated question. I have already replied that if the honourable member can bring any specific instance to my notice, I will surely look into it.

Shri Hiralal Patwary :— Is it a fact that the agents of the F.C.I. are paying to the cultivators counting 40 kg. to a maund? If the

Hon'ble Minister has no information, will be very kindly enquire ?

Shri Romesh Chandra Barooah :— We have already abandoned maunds and seers. We now count in terms of quintals and kilogrammes.

Re : Transfer of D. I. of School, Karimganj, during last seven years.

শ্রীমতিলাল কান্ন জিজ্ঞাসা করিতেছেন :

* 320 । মাননীয় শিক্ষা মন্ত্রী মহোদয় অনুগ্রহপূর্বক জানাইবেন কি—

(ক) গত ৭ বৎসরের মধ্যে করিমগঞ্জের D.I. of Schools এর অফিসটিকে কতবার স্থানান্তরিত করা হয় এবং উহার জন্য কত টাকা খরচ করা হয় ?

(খ) এই অফিস ও Assistant Secretary Grate Board for Elementary Education অফিসটির জন্য বৎসরে কত টাকা ভাড়া দেওয়া হয় ?

(গ) ইহা কি সত্য যে, বিগত কয়েক বৎসর পূর্বে এই অফিসগুলোর জন্য গৃহনির্মানের মঞ্জুরী করা হইয়াছে ?

(ঘ) যদি সত্য হইয়া থাকে, তাহা হইলে কেন উহা এখন পর্য্যন্ত নির্মাণ করা হয় নাই এবং কবে পর্য্যন্ত নির্মাণ করা হইবে ?

রাজ্যিক শিক্ষামন্ত্রী শ্রীচৈয়দ আহমদ আলি উত্তর দিতেছেন :

৩২০। (ক) গত ৭ বৎসরে D.I. of Schools (উপ-পরিদর্শক)

এর অফিসটি দুইবার স্থানান্তরিত করা হয় ও ইহাতে ৪০০ টাকা খরচ করা হইয়াছে?

(খ) বাৎসরিক ২,৬৪০ টাকা

(গ) —হ্যাঁ।

(ঘ) স্থানাভাবে উক্ত ভবনটি তৈরি করা সম্ভব হয় নাই। উপযুক্ত স্থান পাইলে অচিরেই সরকার ঐ দপ্তরগৃহটি নির্মাণ করাইয়া লইবেন।

M. Shamsul Huda:— মহোদয়! এইকথা সচ'ানেকি যে স্বার্থ-জড়িত লোকের ঘর ভাড়া লৈ এই ধৰণে অফিচ স্থাপন করা হৈছে আৰু অসমত এইধৰনৰ কিমান অফিচ ভাৰা ঘৰত চলি আছে? আৰু এইধৰণে কিমান টকা বছৰেকত খৰচ হৈছে?

M. Syed Ahmed Ali :— নিজা ঘর নোপোৱাৰ কাৰণে ঘৰভাড়া লৈ অফিচ কৰিবলৈ বাধ্য হৈছে। কিমান ঘৰ লোৱা হৈছে কব নোৱাৰো।

Shri Dulal Chandra Borua:— আপোনাৰ Dept. ত কিমান অফিচ ভাড়া ঘৰত চলি আছে সেইটোকে কওঁক চোন?

Shri Sadhan Ranjan Sarkar:— উপযুক্ত স্থান অনুসন্ধান করার জন্য কি ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করেছেন?

M. Syed Ahmed Ali :—বিভাগীয় কর্মচারীদের নির্দেশ দেওয়া হয়েছে উপযুক্ত স্থান নির্বাচন করার জন্য যাহাতে সকলের সুযোগ এবং সুবিধা হয় এমন ভাবে central place নির্বাচন করার জন্য।

Shri Sadhan Ranjan Sarkar:— কবে নির্দেশ দিয়েছেন?

(no reply)

MA. Musawwir Choudhury: — যাৰ পৰা যৰ ভাৰা লোৱা হৈছে— সেই যৰৰ মালিক কোন? আৰু তেওঁ কোন পাৰ্টিৰ মানুহ আমাক জনাবনে?

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua: — আমি মন্ত্ৰীমহোদয়ৰ পৰা জানিব বিছাৰিছো মালিক জন কোন পাৰ্টিৰ মানুহ! এই বিলাক কংগ্ৰেছ পাৰ্টিৰ মানুহ নেকি।

M. Syed Ahmed Ali :— আপোনালোকৰ প্ৰয়োজন হলে কব পাৰো— কিন্তু তাৰ কাৰণে নটিচ লাগিব।

Re : Number of Schools in Abhayapuri
Constituency devastated in floods and storms

Shri KANDARPA NARAYAN BANIKYA asked :—

*321. Will the Minister, Education be pleased to state—

(a) How many School buildings were devastated by floods and storms in the years 1966-67, 1967-68 and 1968-69 in the Abhayapuri Constituency?

(b) Whether any action has been taken to reconstruct them?

(c) If not, when it will be done?

M. SYED AHMED ALI (Minister of State for Education) replied :—

321. (a)—The details are as follows—

1966-67 : No. of flood affected—

L. P. Schools—45.

M. V. Schools—Nil.

High Schools—No report.

Storm damaged—

L. P. Schools—27.

M. V. and Senior Basic Schools—3

High Schools—4

1967-68 : No. of Flood affected—

L. P. and Junior Basic Schools—24.

M. V. and Senior Basic Schools—Nil.

High Schools—No report.

Storm damaged—

L. P. and Junior Basic Schools—15.

High Schools—3

1968-69 : Flood, Storm and other Natural calamities—

L. P. and Junior Basic Schools - 25.

M. V. and Senior Basic Schools—5.

High Schools—No report.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Does not arise in view of reply to (b).

Shri Kandarpa Narayan Banikya :— Did the Hon'ble Minister personally visit any one of the damaged schools in my constituency last year ?

M. Syed Ahmed Ali :— I cannot recollect now If I at all visited any institution.

Shri Kandarpa Narayan Banikya :— May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that there are many schools where students are getting their lessons under the sky ?

M. Syed Ahmed Ali :— I cannot say anything from my Personal knowledge, but we go by reports received from different officials of the subdivision. In this regard we have no official report.

Shri Mahidhar Pegu:— বানপানীত বিধস্ত স্কুল বিলাকৰ কিমান খন আংশিক ভাবে আৰু কিমান খন সম্পূৰ্ণ ভাবে বিধস্ত হৈছে এই কথা চৰকাৰে জানেনে ?

M. Syed Ahmed Ali :— বানপানীত বিধস্ত হোৱা স্কুলৰ ঘৰ বিলাক আংশিক ভাবে ক্ষতি হৈছে যদিও সম্পূৰ্ণ ভাবে ক্ষতি হোৱা নাই ।

Moulana A. Musawwir Chaudhury :— May I know what was the amount sanctioned for the repair of storm and flood affected schools of Assam ?

Shri Syed Ahmed Ali :— 1966-67 Rs. 14,600.

1967-68 ,, 10,000.

1968-69 ... About Rs. 29,000.

Re : Devastation caused by Nova river for want of stretching its western embankment.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA asked :—

*322. Will the Minister of Flood Control be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware of the devastations caused by the river Nova for not stretching its western (right) embankment upto the Gohai-Kamala Road ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that a man was killed near Barajol by such devastating floods of the Nova river during the last rainy season ?

(c) Whether Government proposes to take up

this work in the near future?

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY
(Minister, Flood Control and Irrigation Department,
etc.) replied :—

322. (a) — Government is aware of the flood devastations caused by the river Nona in the upper reaches in the Gohai Kamal Ali region.

(b)—One Motiur Chandu Ali, son of late Sukna Seikh was drowned while he tried to cross the river Nona while in spate at village Balipara during last year's floods.

(c)—A scheme for extension of Nona embankments along both banks upto Gohai Kamal Ali in the upper reaches of Nona is under examination of Government.

Shri Gauri Sankar Bhattacharyya :— May I know whether in that scheme has been included also the control of the Singmara (or Singimara) jan ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— I want notice.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Whether this matter has been placed before the Flood Control Board ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— No, Sir. The Executive Engineer Submitted the estimates only recently and, therefore, the scheme could not be placed before the Flood Control Board.

Shri Kamini Mohan Sarma:— নানা নদীখন তৰাং আৰু বৰ উৎপত্তিয়া। এই নদী খনৰ upper reaches ৰ right bank ৰ মাঠাউৰি সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰি Left bank ৰ মাঠাউৰিৰ বিষয়ে কিবা বিবেচনা কৰিছেনে ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury:— আমাৰ আচনি মতে ছয়ো পাৰে মাঠাউৰি কৰা হব।

Re : Sanction for Brahmaputra Dyke from
Tengapani to Desangmukh

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA asked :—

*323. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (E. & D.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Brahmaputra dyke extension from Tengapani to Desangmukh has already been san-

ctioned and if not, the reasons thereof and how long it will take to sanction the same?

(b) Whether Government examined the cause of the river which is likely to change towards Dhai-Ali side and thus damage Desang bund and affect some mouzas near Sibsagar Town?

(c) Whether Government have taken up the said scheme along with the Government of India?

(d) The number of scheme taken up at a time along with the above scheme and out of that how many were sanctioned?

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY
(Minister, Flood Control and Irrigation Department,
etc.) replied :—

323. (a)—Comments on the scheme sent to the C. W. & P. C. for detail examination have been received and the estimate is in the process of modification taking into view of the comments made by C. W. & P. C. However considering urgency of the work, it has been taken up in two phases. The work of the 1st three miles

is expected to be completed in this year.

(b)—Yes. There is no possibility of the river changing its course. Only the spill-channel are formed during high flood. These channels carry the flood water to Desang as there is no embankment on Desang right bank in this reach. Of course left embankment on Desana in the reach protecting vast areas, are threatened by the flood water coming through spill channels.

(c)—Yes. It was sent to C. W. & P. C. and they have furnished their comments.

(d)—Schemes are not taken up in batches to be sent to C. W. & P. C. However five schemes were taken up with the Flood Control Board along with this scheme. Only three out of them were approved in the 1st instance and this particular scheme in the 16th meeting.

Shri Durgeswar Saikia: এই তিনি মাইলৰ কাম কৰাব লগতে বাকী খিনি কাম ক্ৰমান্বয়ে কৰা হ'ব বুলি আশা কৰিব পাৰিনে ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— স্তৰ হিচাবে কাম কৰা হ'ব। প্ৰথম স্তৰৰ কাম শেষ হ'লে দ্বিতীয় স্তৰৰ কাম আৰম্ভ কৰা হ'ব।

Re : Representation for construction of a bund in the gap of the Desang right bund

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA asked :—

* 324. Will the Minister, P. W. D (E. & D.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the public of Bokota as well as the questioner represented to the Chief Minister and the Revenue Minister to construct a bund in the gap of the Desang right bund lying in between Pataku and Nagalmora for protection of the people of Bokota Mauza from floods?

(b) If so, whether Government has examined the proposal and what is the estimated cost?

(c) What steps Government have taken to finalise the scheme?

(d) Whether Government examined the fact that on both the banks of the Desang there are bunds except in the above portion?

(e) How long it will take to finalise it?

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY (Minister, Flood Control & Irrigation Department, etc.) replied :—

324. (a)—Yes

(b)—It is being examined by the Local officer of Flood Control. Regarding the cost of the scheme no information can be given.

(c)—On receipt of the schemes from the Local officer, it will be scrutinised.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—As soon as the estimate is received from the Executive Engineer.

Shri Durgeswar Saikia:— মহোদয়, এইটো কথা সচলানেকি যে চেপ্তেম্বর মাহলৈকে প্রায় বিলাক অঞ্চল বানপানীত ক্ষতি হৈ থাকে ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— এই কথা কিছু পৰিমাণে সচল।

Shri Durgeswar Saikia :— মহোদয়, Estimate পোৱাৰ পিচতে এই কথা বিবেচনা কৰিবনে ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury:— Sir, এতিয়ালৈকে আমি Estimate পোৱা নাই। আৰু পালেও এই season ৰ ভিতৰত কৰাটো সম্ভব নহব।

Re : Construction of Deroi Bund under Sibsagar E. & D. Division.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA asked .—

* 325. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (F. C. & I.) be pleased to state —

(a) The actions taken by Government since the commencement of the winter for construction of Deroi Bund under Sibsagar E. & D. Division ?

(b) Whether the scheme was placed in the E. & D. Board for its approval ?

(c) Whether Government is aware of the extent of suffering of the people of Bokota Mouza and part of Thowra Mouza during the last year floods for want of this bund ?

(d) The date of visit of the Hon'ble Chief Minister to Hariparaghat High School and inspection of floods ?

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY [Minister, P. W. D. (Flood Control and Irrigation)] replied :

325. (a)—There is no proposal for construction of Deroi Bund.

(b)—There is no E. and D. Board but an

E. and D. Advisory Committee formed in 1967. In its 1st and only meeting so far this scheme was not placed for approval.

(c)—Yes. But this is not due to absence of any embankment along Deroi. During flood time, spills from Desang gets its way to Deroi which is at a lower level and inundate areas on its either bank.

(d)—21st and 22nd July, 1968 respectively.

Scheme for revitalising the Kollong River

M. SHAMSUL HUDA . asked :—

*326. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (F. C. & I.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Government has any scheme of revitalising the river Kollong?

(b) If so, the estimated cost of the scheme?

(c) When the Government propose to start implementation of the scheme?

(d) The required period for final implementation of the scheme?

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY
[Minister, P. W. D. (F. C. & I.)] replied :—

326. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Rs. 36,02 000,00

(c)—The Government propose to start implementation of the scheme in the next year.

(d)—It may require two years.

M. Shamsul Huda :— May I know from the hon'ble Minister whether the scheme will serve the purpose of irrigating the agricultural belt on both the banks of the river from the source to the mouth ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— Apart from a sluice gate on Kollong embankment, another big irrigation project is being examined from the side of the Flood Control & Irrigation Wing. We are finalising the scheme. But before that some formalities will have to be observed, i. e., clearance from the Agriculture Deptt. and the Revenue Deptt. is necessary. As soon as clearance is obtained from them, I think, work will be started.

M. Shamsul Huda :— My question was — whether the scheme will serve the purpose of irrigation of agricultural belt from the source to the mouth ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— The question is not from the source to the mouth. The problem has arisen from the source to Missa. From Missa there is another channel which has connected the Kollong. Therefore, from Missa to the mouth of the river the constant flow is there. Therefore, the question of another valley is not concerned. What I have said is that this project alone may not be quite sufficient for the purpose of irrigation of Kaliabor area. But in addition to this another irrigation scheme has been proposed and the proposal is at the final stage.

M. Shamsul Huda :— What will be the cost of the project ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— This will be a lift irrigation scheme and I think it will cost about 74 lakhs of rupees.

Re : Resurfacing of A. T. Road

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA asked :

* 327. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the portion of A. T. Road from mile 219 to 222 of A. T. Road was resurfaced ?

(b) If so, when the work of resurfacing were done and when the final payment was made ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the entire portion has again gone out of order ?

(d) If so, whether it is due to bad workmanship or for some other reasons ?

(e) Who supervised the works ?

Shri ALTAF HUSSAIN MAZUMDER (Minister of State, P.W.D. (R. & B.)) replied :

327. (a)—The work of resurfacing the portion of A. T. Road from mile 219th to 222nd has been taken up along with additional coat of metal.

(b)—Works of resurfacing commenced on 17th October, 1968 and 29th October, 1968. Final payments have not been made as the work is not yet complete.

(c)—No, while the work was in progress, some portions got damaged due to plying of heavy vehicles, belonging to Oil and Natural Gas Commission, which have subsequently been set right by Contractor at his cost.

(d)—Does not arise in view of reply above.

(e)—Departmental officers.

Shri Durgaswar Saikia :—“C” ব ওচৰত কৈছে যে heavy vehicle যোৱাৰ কাৰণে বাষ্টাটো বেয়া হৈছে। এতিয়া সেই বাষ্টাটো সেই contractor ৰ খৰচত ভাল কৰিবনে কাৰ খৰছত ভাল কৰিব?

Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumder :—Sir, when we give work to a contractor it is his responsibility to complete it and hand over it to Deptt. And, if anything found wrong during the work it has got to be set right.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :—Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that the repair works have been done by the contractor at his own cost. May I know whether Govt. is aware of the fact that the Contractor has claimed extra amount for res-

urfacing that portion of the road which got damaged? If, so, what is the amount?

Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumber :—So far as my information goes, the Contractor has not asked for any extra amount for that.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :—May I know from the hon'ble Minister of State for P. W. D. whether it is a fact that the road was damaged not due to plying of heavy vehicles but due to the defect in resurfacing work which was undertaken by the Department through the contractor?

Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumber :—Sir, whatever be the reason the result is that the contractor has got to set it right.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :—What is the amount that has been paid to the contractor?

Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumber :—Final payments have not been made as yet.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :—What is the amount already paid to the Contractor?

Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumber :—Sir, I find

the valuation of the work is Rs. 9,622/-

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— It is the valuation of the works. I want to know what is the amount in the form of running bills has been paid to the Contractor?

Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumder :— Sir, that information is not with me at the moment.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Will the hon. Minister give the information later on?

Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumder :— Since the hon'ble member wanted to know it, I will certainly give it.

Shri Durgeswar Saikia :— মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে কৈছে heavy vehicle যোৱাৰ ফলত অলপ বাস্তা বেয়া হৈছে কিন্তু সেই বাস্তাটো অকল যে ২১৯ পৰা ২২২ লৈহে কৰিছে এনে নহয়, শিবসাগৰৰ ওচৰলৈকে কৰি ছিল। কিন্তু বাকী খিনি যে ভাল হৈ থাকিল এই খিনিনো কিয় বেয়া হ'ল। আমি যিটো জানো তাত ব্যৱহাৰ কৰা শিলগুটি আলকাটৰা আদি বাস্তাৰ সামগ্ৰী বিলাকৰ quality বেয়া থকাৰ উপৰিও তাৰ কাম বিলাকত ভাল supervision হোৱা নাই আৰু এইটো নোহোৱাৰ ফলতেই যে বেয়া হৈছে সেই কথা টো মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে জানেনে?

Shri Altaf Hossain Mazumder : — Sir, this is not the position. When the resurfacing work is done naturally we cannot use the road to vehicles. Vehicles are expected to ply slow. But this is not followed always. At times vehicles are driven at a high speed resulting in damages of certain portions

Shri Durgeswar Saikia :— মোৰ প্রশ্ন হৈছে কোনো ঠাইত গোটেই থিনি জাগাতে তেনেকুৱা অৱস্থা এটা হৈছে ইয়াৰ কাৰণ হ'ল যি সময়ত ৰাস্তা বন্দা সামগ্ৰী বিলাক দিয়ে সেই সময়ত আৰু যি ধৰণৰ Supervision তাত লাগিছিল সেইটোও হোৱা নাই তাৰ ফল স্বৰূপে সেই বিলাক বেয়া হৈ গৈছে। কিন্তু দেখা যায় আন কণ্ট্ৰাক্টৰে কৰিছিল সেই থিনি ভালে আছে। কেৱল এই কণ্ট্ৰাক্টৰে কৰা থিনি বেয়া হৈছে। গতিকে মই মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক অনুৰোধ কৰো যে Superintending ইঞ্জিনিয়াৰক হতুৱাই এটা ভাল তদন্ত কৰি তাৰ যথাযথ ব্যৱস্থা লব লাগে।

Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumder — This work has been supervised by the subordinate staff as well as the higher staff there.

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : আলকাটৰাৰ লগত যিবিলাক শিলগুটি দিছিল সেইবিলাক পচা শিলগুটি।

(A voice : শিলগুটি পচে নেকি।)

(Voice : নহয়, নহয় টিলা শিলগুটি)

(হাঁহি)

মটৰ যাওতে শিলগুটি বিলাক গুৰা হয় এই কথাটো ভালকৈ তদন্ত কৰি সংলিষ্টলোকৰ ওপৰত উপযুক্ত ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰিবনে।

Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumder :— Sir, I have not actually followed what the hon'ble member wanted to say.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— The hon'ble Minister has stated that the road was damaged due to plying of heavy vehicles and not due to the defect in surfacing work. But does the hon'ble Minister know that there are some road where no heavy vehicle is plying where the surfacing has been removed within a week?

If the Minister want I can cite a instance.

Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumder :— Certainly if specific instances are given I will look into it.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Hon'ble Minister may note that there is a Road named Neamati road in Jorhat where resurfacing has been removed within one week. I personally visited the road and brought the matter to the notice of the Superintending Engineer and the E.E., there. But nothing has been done.

Re : Police Station at Tihu

Dr. BHUMIDHAR BARMAN asked :

*331. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government decided to establish a full-fledged Police Station at Tihu in the Kamrup District ?

(b) If so, what steps have been taken so far for its establishment ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

331. (a)— There is no such proposal.

(b) - Does not arise.

Dr. Bhumidhar Barman :— টিহু অঞ্চলত যিটো out-post আছে তাৰ পৰা সেই অঞ্চলৰ শান্তি শৃঙ্খলা বক্ষা কৰিব পাৰিছেনে ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— টিহু অঞ্চলৰ বাইজ শান্তিপূৰ্ণ বাইজ।

Re : Assam House in New Delhi

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY asked :—

* 334. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state —

(a) When the plan for Development of Assam House in New Delhi was finalised and when the sanction was accorded ?

(b) The total cost of construction of the house ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that a P. W. D. Subdivisional Office was started at New Delhi for the purpose ?

(d) The total expenditure incurred for entertainment of the P. W. D. staff, etc. and for construction work ? (to be shown separately).

(e) When Government propose to complete construction of Assam House at New Delhi ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :—

334. (a)—The plan for development of Assam House, New Delhi was finalised in 1962 and the sanction was accorded on 13th August 1962.

(b) Estimated cost is Rs. 5,14,000

(c)—Yes, A. P. W. D. Sub-divisional Office at New Delhi started functioning with effect from 1st July 1965.

(d)—Total expenditure upto the end of January, 1969 is as follows— Rs.

(i) For General staff 36,500

(ii) For work charge staff. 16,334

Total 52,834

(iii) For construction work. 4,26,218

(e)—The construction is expected to be completed by the 31st March, 1969.

Shri Prabhat Narayan Choudhury :— ১৯৬২ চনতে দিল্লীৰ Assam House টো সম্প্রসাৰন কৰিবৰ কাৰণে ৫ লাখ টকা sanction দিয়া হৈছিল। কিন্তু ১৯৬৯ চনলৈকে ইয়াৰ কাম কৰি হৈ উঠা নাই ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— ঘৰটো কৰি থকা সময়ত design অদল বদল কৰিব লগা হৈছিল আৰু contractor যে ও বহুতো সময়ত গোলমাল লগাইছিল। আৰু সেই কাৰণে contractor সলনি কৰিব লগা হৈছিল। সেইকাৰণে এই কামত পলম হৈছিল।

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Who is the contractor ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— At the moment I do not have the name with me.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Whether it is a fact that Shri A. Nayar who was entrusted with the work is a black listed contractor. The Chief Minister assured the House that he will enquire into the matter and all the facts would be placed before the House. May I know whether any action has been taken in this regard ? If no, why not ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— That question is not relevant to this question. The fact is that the contractor has been removed but all the facts relating to him are not with me.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :—Whether the entire amount has been paid to the said contractor ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— As I have already said about it that all the facts are not with me now.

Mr. Speaker :— Submit the information later on.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— The construction cost is increasing due to the anomalies creeping in contract affairs is it true ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— It may be so. I cannot say definitely because all the facts are not with me now.

Shri Giasuddin Ahmed :— It has been stated that the P. W. D. Subdivisional Office was started in New Delhi. What is the total number of officers employed in the different categories and what is the total amount of T. A. drawn by them in performing the journeys from Assam to New Delhi ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— There only one S. D. O. and all others are work charged staff.

Shri Prabhat Narayan Choudhury :— What is the normal load of work which justifies the appointment of an S. D. O. ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— There is justification therefore he has been appointed.

Re : Proposal for Water Supply at Nalbari Municipality

Shri Prabhat Narayan Choudhury asked :—

*335. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) When did the Nalbari Municipality submit proposal for water supply at Nalbari Town ?

(b) Whether the Municipality was asked by Government to submit revised plan and estimate for water supply in the growing town together with term and conditions for repayment of the loan advanced for the purpose and, if so, when ?

(c) Whether the Municipality has since submitted the same ?

(d) If not, why ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) replied:

335. (a) In September, 1964.

(b), (c) & (d)—On scrutiny of the loan proposal, it was found that the Financial position of the Municipal Board was far from satisfactory and the Municipal Board would not be in a

position to repay the loan if sanctioned.

As such the Municipal Board was asked to prepare a fresh repayment scheme and resubmit the loan proposal in proper form with resolution of the Board, Repayment Scheme, Plan and Estimate duly approved by the Chief Public Health Engineer through the Deputy Commissioner and Commissioner of Plains Division for consideration of Government. The loan proposal has not yet been received. Meanwhile, Government have decided to have a ground water survey and the Director of Geology and Mines has been requested to make a Ground Water Survey for Nalbari. The investigation work has been taken up and the report is awaited.

Shri Prabhat Narayan Choudhury :— Public Health dept. যি ধৰণে sanction আৰু plan estimate হ'ব লাগে সেইধৰণে Geological Dept. ত কৰিবলৈ দিয়া নহয়নেকি ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi :— Geological Dept. কেৱল Survey কামৰ কাৰণে দিয়া হৈছে--আন কাৰণে দিয়া হোৱা নাই।

Shri Prabhat Narayan Choudhury :— What effective measure Government propose to take so that the plans and estimate for water supply is ensured ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi :— Report **বিছরা** হৈছে, সেইটো পালেহে ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব পৰা যাব।

Re : Transfer of the Management of the State Transport to a Corporation

M. Shamsul Huda asked :

* 336. Will the Minister, Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Government has arranged to transfer the management of the State Transport to a Corporation to be organised ?

(b) If so, why ?

(c) What greater financial benefit does the Government visualise in the transfer of the management to the Corporation ?

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury (Minister of State for Transport) replied :—

336. (a)—The State Government have taken a decision on principle to transfer the management of the State Transport Undertaking now being run departmentally to a Corporation to be set up under the Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950.

(b) & (c)—In addition to bringing about greater co-ordination in services, a corporation is essential for mobilising the internal resources needed for the continuous expansion of Road Transport Undertaking and for measuring and enforcing standards of efficient management. A corporation would have much greater autonomy in the management and operation of commercial services, in the use of internal resources and in mobilising resources for future development than obtains in the case of a Departmental Undertaking. The Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950, under which a corporation is set up, provides considerable scope for a Corporation to function on commercial lines and to take and implement decision speedily without being tied down by rigid procedures as in the case of Departmental Undertaking.

Apart from the financial contribution from the Railways to the capital of the State Road Transport Corporation, it is expected that a Corporation would yield more surpluses through efficient management of the Undertaking. Besides, unlike a Departmental Undertaking, a Corporation, under the law, can raise funds from the open market for financing various development projects relating thereto.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :— Whether the Government is aware of the latest change in the outlook throughout the whole of India in regard to the question of the running of such undertakings by Corporations ? In other words whereas previously government of India and the various State Governments thought as shown in the answer by our Minister that probably the Corporation would be more economical, more efficient and more prompt but the latest experience has shown that all hopes have been

belived and all fears have been justified because in our own State itself we have seen that a Corporation like that of the State Electricity Board has become a veritable sink, an institution full of corruption, top heaviness and extravagances and even smaller Corporations like the Marketing Corporation, Small Industries Development Corporation and so on, all these have become losing concerns, dens of corruption, nepotism, favouritism and top-heaviness. Moreover, taking advantage of the autonomy they get under a Corporation they practically run those organisations to their personal or group interest contrary to the interest of the general masses of the people. Therefore, in view of this bitter experience of the functioning of the Corporation in our State and also in other States will the Government even now, as a matter of principle, abandon the idea of handing over the State Transport to a Corporation because if that is

done then some serious consequences will follow. No 1 — now the State Transport organisation, in respect of its difects is under the searching examination of this House, which is the representative of the people. If it goes under the screen of autonomy, the searching eye of the people will be lost. No. 2 — is that in spite of their corruptness and inspite of their nepotism and favourtism and all vices, those who are managing things now, they are at least to some extent careful lest they come under the fire of the Legislature at least once in a year. Now, once they get the screen of autonomy under the Corporation they will be like so many despots like Ayub Khan or even worse than that, like Yahya Khan. So, to that extent the corrupt and inefficient group of officers will run riot. The State Transport Organisation once it goes to the Coporation, the employment potensial which

it has will be lost to our local people or the employment potentiality will be minimised. In view of this possibility it will be against the basic interest of the country. Therefore, will the Government be pleased to reconsider their decision to handover the State Transport Organisation to a Corporation, even in principle ?

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury, :— Sir, we have finally decided to transfer the State Transport to a Corporation. Sir, about two months ago I was invited by the Union Minister of Transport and he requested me to convert it into a Corporation. But in this question a difficulty arises. We have a depreciation reserve fund of about 2 crores of rupees and they wanted, before it is merged, that this money should be paid to the Corporation. At present we are in a difficult position. Therefore, it may not be possible for us to transfer it to the Corporation

now and so we are not going to do it.

M. Moinul Haque Choudhury :— The question is, Sir, that the Government of Assam does not require to pay income tax on the income from the State Transport Organisation. If they form a Corporation, I think, they will have to pay income tax to the Govt. of India. Has the Government considered that from the meagre income they derive which is disproportionate to the investment, after paying the income tax will they be able to contribute anything to the State exchequer ?

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury :— We will have to pay income tax. The question is now that whatever investment we have made that is our investment and we will get 6% interest and Railway also will get 6% interest because the Railway will be also advancing money to the Corporation.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :— Sir, hon.

Member, Mr. Haque Choudhury's question has not been answered. The question is that there are two forms: One is share capital and the other is loan. So far as our Government's investment is concerned, that will be share capital and therefore only after paying income tax any dividend that might come, that may be a stipulated percentage, whatever that might be, and that will be only a second charge, that cannot be the first charge. Now, the Hon'ble member Shri Hoque Choudhury has said that income tax being the first charge, after paying the income tax whether the Corporation will be run at a loss or that will be a dead weight to our exchequer as the State Electricity Board is a dead weight to the extent of Rs. 150 crores to our exchequer?

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury :— Shares will be just like preferential shares and interest will be paid at the rate of 6%.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Are we to understand, as the Minister has said that it is not the economic proposal or it is not that the Government has examined these things carefully from the economic point of view but it is because of the pressure of the Govt. of India that the State Govt. has submitted to the Government of India in taking such a decision ?

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury (Transport) :— This will come under the Act of 1950. Many States have formed autonomous State Corporation in conjunction with the Railways.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— We are not concerned with other States, we are concerned with Assam only.

M. Moinul Haque Choudhury :—Sir, my question, I think, has not been appreciated. I may earn certain amount and I may spend the whole of it for my family. But under the Rules of the Income Tax Department

I shall have to pay the income tax if necessary by selling my property. That is a simple proposition. So what ever may be the earning of the Corporation and whatever may be the agreement the Corporation will have to pay the income tax on the earning even by selling the corpus of the Corporation. You may get 6% interest but when the Income Tax demand will come the Buses will have to be sold and probably the headquarters will have to be sold. (Voice from the Opposition' even by mortgaging the Minister) This is no answer to my question. The answer that we will get our 6% is not an answer. My question is after paying the Income-Tax which will be heavy under the present Income-Tax Act and Rules will there be anything left ? Or will gradually the corpus of our Corporation will go on evaporating and evaporating and it will be finished as Echo died leaving only sound behind.

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury :— Interest will

be deducted from the gross income.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Sir, as I have said the Minister is not following the economic theory. They also need not care to understand it because their belly will be filled. May I point out to the Minister of State for Transport that this matter was discussed in this august House in the last Budget Session when we proposed from this side of the House that without taking the House into confidence no such decision should be taken. May I know from the Minister under what authority without taking the House into confidence the Government has taken the decision to convert it into a Corporation.

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury :— I will come with the proposal when it is done.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Why then the Minister said that they have decided to convert it into a Corporation ?

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury, (Transport) :—
The Government have decided to convert it into a Corporation and I will come before the House for sanction.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :— That will be a fait accompli and we are not concerned with it. Before the decision is taken all pros and cons should be considered. It appears that the Department has not fully briefed the Minister on the possible questions that may be raised by the Hon'ble members. Hon'ble member Mr. Choudhury's point is that, Government has said that in the long run it will be more profitable but whether this profit is possible under the circumstances when inspite of interest or equity share or whatever it may be, a heavy amount shall have to be paid as Income Tax and net profit will be reduced and corpus it-self shall have to be touched and it will be sliced and eaten up. Whether Government has considered

this and made an assessment.

Shri Biswadev Sarma (Minister, Industries) :—
Are these all guess works ?

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :— No. It is not guess work. I am asking whether the Government has assessed the matter, whether they have said that 'this is the experience of the last 20 years, this is the gross annual income and on the gross annual income this is the taxable quantum and after taking all these into consideration we have come to this decision' ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi, (Minister, Finance) :— Sir, may I point out that there are two types of corporations in India : One type consists entirely of loan capital like the State Electricity Board of Assam and other States, they have no equity capital. The result is that interest on the loan forms part of the expenses. Until the interest is paid no profit

arises. For instance the State Electricity Board has not been able to pay the interest at all although they have been making income. Because they have not been able to pay the interest there has been no any profit. There are other types of Corporations in which there is equity capital or equity capital plus loan capital. Now if there is equity capital then whatever is the profit income tax is to be paid through. What I understand from my Hon'ble friend on this side is that the intention is to create this Corporation with loan capital. What the Railway will contribute also will be loan and the State Government's contribution will also be loan. The result will be that the interest on the loans will be the first charge and the income tax will come through. Until the interest is paid the profit will not arise and if profit does not arise no income tax is required to be paid. So to the extent of

6% interest is assured. If the return goes beyond 6% it will be shared between the Government of India and our State Government - that between 6% and 12% or whatever it is. Now whether these State managed undertakings should pay income tax? On this question there is great deal of re thinking in the Government of India. In the last two meetings before the N. D. C. this matter was raised and the Finance Minister said that the State managed Corporations also would be brought within the ambit of income tax. They have not yet done it but they are thinking on it.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :— This is dangerous that they are thinking on it.

M. Shamsul Huda :— Does the Government not consider that the payment of income tax will have a serious bearing on the passenger in the form of enhancement of fares?

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury :— No.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Sir, whatever arguments they may put in support of the Corporation our point is, that we are opposing it.

M. Shamsul Huda :— Sir, my question has not been answered. Who will pay the income tax? Will the officer and Minister pay it out of their own pockets by selling their paternal properties?

Mr. Speaker :—The Minister has replied to your question. You have discussed the matter enough and it has turned into a debate. You may raise a half-an-hour discussion on it. If you so desire.

M. Shamsul Huda :— Yes Sir, we demand a half-an-hour discussion on this matter. This may kindly be taken as a notice.

Re : Letting out of Permits by Private Bus Permit Holders

M. Shamsul Huda asked :

*337. Will the Minister, Transport be pleased to state —

(a) Whether it is a fact that quite a large number of permit holders of private buses in the State have been letting out their permits ?

(b) Whether it is permissible under the existing Rules ?

(c) If not, what measures does the Government propose to stop such malpractice ?

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury (Minister of State for Transport) replied :

337. (a) Government have no information.

(b)—No.

(c)—The State or Regional Transport Authority which grants these permits has adequate powers under the law to check such mal-practices by either cancelling or suspending a permit in case of its unauthorised transfer from one person to another.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Re : Average number of passengers travelling in the Pancharatna to Goalpara State Transport Bus

Shri Mathura Mohan Sinha asked :

225. Will the Minister, Transport be pleased to state—

(a) What is the average number of daily passengers travelling in State Transport Buses from Pancharatna to Goalpara and vice versa ?

(b) What is the average daily income from this route ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that sufficient number of State Transport Buses is not placed on the route and as such travelling public had to face much trouble and inconvenience very often ?

(d) If so, what is the reason ?

(e) Whether Government propose to consider to minimise the trouble of the travelling public by placing more Buses in the line ?

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury (Minister of State for Transport) replied :

225. (a)—About 150 passengers from Pancharatna to Goalpara and 250 passengers from Goalpara to Pancharatna.

(b)—Rupees 85.00.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Re : No Vehicle for the Information and Public Relations Officers at Goalpara

Shri Mathura Mohan Sinha asked :

226. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that there is no vehicle at the disposal of the Information and Public Relations Offices at Goalpara ?

(b) If so, whether Government is aware that the Publicity works of Government activities have been suffering much specially in rural areas for want of such vehicle ?

(c) Whether Government propose to improve the publicity activities of Government considering the Goalpara district to be a backward and border District ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) replied :

226. (a)—It is not a fact. There is a vehicle at the disposal of Subdivisional Information and Public Relation Officer, Goalpara.

(b)—Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) Due attention is given to improve the position of publicity coverage in all the districts including Goalpara district subject to the limitation of State resources.

Re : Land problem in Bhabanipur, Hastinapur, etc., mouzas in Barpeta Subdivision

Shri Dharani Dhar Choudhury asked :

227. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Government is aware of the

fact that some peculiar land problems exist in Bhabanipur, Hastinapur, Bijni, Koklabari mouzas in Barpeta Subdivision ?

(b) Whether Government is also aware that due to increased volume of work and also due to the fact that the existing circle offices at Patacherkuchi, Sorbhog and Barpeta are situated at a considerable distance, the mauzas have been failed to have proper attentions needed to solve the peculiar problems of those mouzas ?

(c) As the peculiar problems of those mouzas are proposing up in a more complex way, whether the Government contemplates to establish a new circle office at Sarupeta immediately ?

(d) If so, whether Government propose to take immediate steps for establishment of the circle office ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury (Minister, Revenue) replied :

227. (a) & (b)—Government are aware that

due to general increase in the volume of land records works and L. R. staff in the Barpeta Subdivision and also due to existence of wide area of Brahmaputra river with chars, the circles cannot be supervised properly by the Circle Officers and there is necessity for opening of at least two other circles including one at Sarupeta.

(c)—Yes, as stated at (a) & (b) above.

(d)—The proposal is under consideration.

Re : Old State Transport Buses in the Bongai-gaon-Abhayapuri-Jogighopa Route

Shri Kandarpa Narayan Banikya asked :

228. Will the Minister for Transport be pleased to state —

(a) Whether it is a fact that the State Transport Buses plying in the Bongaigaon-Abhayapuri-Jogighopa route are very old ?

(b) If so, what remedial measure Government propose to take ?

(c) Whether Government propose to replace those old buses with new ones ?

Shri Prabin Kumar Choudhury (Minister of State, Transport) replied :

228. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c) —Buses will be replaced as and when they have served their prescribed life or otherwise rendered uneconomic for use as a stage carriage.

Re : Shri Jatindra Chandra, chanda Inspectors of Police

Shri Golok Chandra Patgiri asked :

229. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) When Shri Jatindra Chandra Chanda, Inspector of Police retired from his service ?

(b) Whether he has received his pension ?

(c) If the answer to (b) is in the negative when he will receive his pension ?

(d) What remedial measures have been taken for receiving pensionary benefits early by the Department ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) replied :

229. (a)—Shri Jatindra Chandra Chanda retired from service with effect from 1st June, 1967.

(b)—No. The pension papers could not be submitted earlier to the Accountant General, Assam and Nagaland due to the delay in fixation of the retired Officer's pay in the revised scale of 1964 in the substantive rank of Sub-Inspector by the Accountant General, Assam and Nagaland.

(c)—Sanction to the payment of pension has been communicated to Accountant General, Assam and Nagaland on 11th December 1968 who will issue authority to the drawal of pension and gratuity.

(d)—The Audit Department has been reminded for early finalisation of the pension case.

Re : Permission for Construction of a Cinema House at Police Bazar, Shillong

Shri Jogen Saikia asked :

230. Will the Chief Minister, be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that one Shri Debi Prasad Agarwalla has been granted permission to construct a cinema house at Police Bazar, Shillong ?

(b) Whether it is also a fact that he encroached upon Government land obstructing the public road and construction of the Cinema House ?

(c) If so, what action Government propose to take against such encroachment and whether Government propose to refuse to grant illegal permission to open the Cinema House until the encroachment is removed ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) replied :

230. (a)—No. A "No-objection Certificate" for the construction of a cinema hall at Police Bazar was granted to Shri S. S. Khongphai of Riat-samthiah Shillong, on the land of Shri Debi Prasad Agarwalla.

(b)—Yes. An area of 1045 sq. ft. of Govern-

ment land was encroached in constructing the Cinema House. The area has, however, been settled subsequently with the party on realisation of premium at 75 percent of the market value.

(c)—Does not arise.

Re : Various agencies for Collection of Statistical data

M. SHAMSUL HUDA asked :

231. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the different agencies of the Government create confusion by publishing varying and incorrect figures of the same statistical data ?

(b) If so, how does the Government propose to get rid of this problem ?

(c) Whether the Government propose to channelise all statistical data of similar nature through a single Department ?

(d) If so, when ?

(e) If not, why ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

231. (a) - No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) — Does not arise.

(c) — This is already being done. Under the arrangements in force, the Directorate of Economics and Statistics functions as the main channel for collection and release of authentic statistical data. Some of the departments have been allowed to have separate statistical cells which also function under the general guidance of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics.

(d) & (e) — Do not arise.

Re : Number of Subsidised Dispensaries in Kokrajhar Subdivision

Shri GOLAK CHANDRA PATGIRI asked :

232. Will the Minister, Health be pleased to state—

(a) The total number of subsidised dispensaries in Kokrajhar Subdivision?

- (b) The names of the dispensaries ?
- (c) How many of them are running (without doctor ?
- (d) How many medical Sub-Centres are there in Kokrajhar Subdivision ?
- (e) How many of them are functioning ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, Health) replied :

232. (a)—Three Allopathic subsidised dispensaries only.

(b)—Amguribazar, Bidyapur and Bhoiramgaon.

(c)—Nil.

(d)—Three.

(e)—All the three.

Re : State Transport Bus Station at Dergaon in delapidated condition

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA asked :

233. Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the State Tran-

sport Bus Station building of Dergaon is in delapidated condition ?

(b) What is the income of the station during the last financial year ? Whether there is any proposal for converting the station to one of the main stations by appointing an Assistant Superintendent there ?

(c) Whether Government propose to construct a canteen for this station for the benefit of the Public ?

(d) Whether there is sufficient land in the compound of the station ?

(e) Whether Government propose to fill up the low-lying portion of the compound to facilitate parking of the buses safely ?

Shri PROBIN KUMAR CHOUDHURI (Minister of State for Transport) replied :

233. (a)—No.

(b)—Rupees one lakh, fortyeight thousand and one hundred fifty. There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Not at present due to financial stringency of the State Government.

(d)—Yes

(e) Yes, the P. W. D. has already been requested to submit plan and estimates for the same.

Re : Town Committee for Sarupather

শ্রীসোমেশ্বৰ বৰাই শ্রদ্ধিছে :

২৩৪। মাননীয় মুখ্য মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে অনুগ্রহ কৰি জনাব নে?

(ক) গোলাঘাটৰ ভিতৰতে এখন প্ৰধান আৰু শিল্প কেন্দ্ৰ সৰুপথাৰৰ টাউন কমিটিখন চৰকাৰে আজি পৰ্য্যন্ত কিয় অনুমোদন দিয়া নাই?

(খ) যদি চৰকাৰৰ টাউন কমিটিখন অনুমোদন দিয়াত কিবা বিশেষ অসুবিধা আছে তেন্তে সেই অসুবিধা বোৰ কি কি?

(গ) যদি কোনো অসুবিধা নাই তেতিয়াও নো উক্ত টাউন কমিটিখনক অনুমোদন দিয়াটো কেতিয়ালৈ আশা কৰিব পাৰি?

(ঘ) যদি নলয়, কিয় নলয়?

মুখ্য মন্ত্রী শ্রীবিমলা প্ৰসাদ চলিহাই উত্তৰ দিছে :

২৩৪। (ক)—শিৱসাগৰৰ উপায়ুক্তক সবিশেষ প্ৰতিবেদন দাখিল কৰিবলৈ নিৰ্দেশ দিয়া হৈছে। জিলা উপায়ুক্তৰ প্ৰতিবেদন অপেক্ষা কৰা হৈছে। প্ৰতিবেদন অতি সোনকালে দাখিল কৰিবলৈ সোঁৱৰাই দিয়া হৈছে।

(খ) (গ) আৰু (ঘ)— শিৱসাগৰ জিলাৰ উপায়ুক্তৰ পৰা প্ৰতিবেদন পোৱা মাত্ৰে এই বিষয় এটি সিদ্ধান্ত লোৱা হ'ব। উক্ত প্ৰতিবেদন পোৱাৰ পাচতহে টাউন কমিটি গঠনত কি কি অসুবিধা আছে তাক জনা যাব।

Re : Establishment of a Magistrate Court at Dergaon

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA asked :

235. Will the Chief Minister be Pleased to state

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Public of Dergaon has been demanding the establishment of a Magistrate Court at Dergaon to give facilities to the common men and specially to the people of Ahatguri and northern side of Golaghat ?

(b) Whether the Chief Minister proposes to direct the Commissioner, Plains Division to examine the possibility of establishing a Magistrates Court at Dergaon within this financial year ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

235. (a)—No such demand has been received by the Government.

(b)—Does not arise.

Re : Income and Expenditure for Pobha Game
Sanctuary for last five years

Shri NAMESWAR PEGU asked :

236. Will the Minister, Forest be pleased to
state—

(a) The Annual average income and expenditure for the last five years of the Pobha Game Sanctuary under Darrang Forest Division ?

(b) How many families have been rehabilitated either as Forest Villagers or Civil Villagers within the Sanctuary ?

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY
(Minister, Forest) replied :

236. (a)—The average annual income and expenditure of the Pobha Game Sanctuary during the last five years is Rs. 30,642·00 and Rs. 20,038·40 Paise respectively.

(b)—116 families have been rehabilitated as Forest Villagers and 420 bighas allotted for flood and erosion affected families and 1,460 bighas for various Satras.

Mr. Speaker :—The question hour is over. Supplementaries kept pending. Mr. Choudhury would now make the promised statement.

Statement by Minister :—Concentration of Pakistani Troops in the Borders.

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury (Minister, Parliamentary Affairs) :—Sir, Government have no information as yet as regards the concentration of Pak Army on the side of Pakistan on the Indo Pak Border. According to Government's latest information East Pakistan Rifles personnel are still posted on Assam-East Pakistan Border. Army units have been posted only in Head quarter towns of all districts of East Pakistan. In each district an army officer has been posted as District administrator. Major General Mazafar Uddin has been placed in charge of East Pakistan for imposition of martial law.

Every air fields, vital installations including

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radio stations at Dacca, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Sylhet etc. are being guarded by army. Movements of army was noticed in East Pakistan since 22nd March, 1969.

Re : Continuous harassment of a section of people by the Police in the Mangaldai Subdivision.

Shri Moinul Haque Choudhury :—Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak on a very important matter, namely, continuous harassment of a section of people by the Police in Mangaldoi subdivision. Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 20.3.69 one Police officer named Shri Jiban Bora was assaulted by some villagers allegedly when he went there for extortion of bribe from the people concerned putting some of them under threat that they were Pakistanis. Although it might be that after his assault law would take its own course ; there would be an investigation and those who took part in the alleged assault would

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be arrested and then put on trial and if they had an alternative case that would also be investigated and tried in the normal course of business; but what happened from 21.3.69 that I am going to tell. Merely because a Policeman was assaulted and there was an incident, the Police force — both armed and civil — under the leadership of the Superintendent of Police Darrang District went to Sibpur and Laodang villages and it is alleged started searching Houses, beating people here and there, destroying there granaries, assaulting women and what not, as if the Police stand on a special footing; as if after an incident with them the entire area could be punished as a punitive measure. The result was that the entire people of Sibpur and Laodang except the ill and the decrepit deserted their houses and took shelter in the jungles. Many of them fled to Gauhati and some came to

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see me. The Police cordoned the area in such a manner that the villagers could not come back to their houses. And whoever would come back would be arrested indiscriminately. I have been informed that 62 persons were arrested so far for assaulting the said Policeman. The people who fled to Gauhati could not meet me 22nd or on 23rd as I was out. On 24th the panicstricken people beseized my house and met me. Immediately I tried to talk to the Revenue Minister, but unfortunately his telephone was out of order. Then I contacted the I. G. P. at about 8. 15 a. m. on 24th and drew his attention to the matter and I requested him that he should do something immediately. Immediately thereafter at 9. 30 A. M. I caused to hand over a telegram to the Gauhati Telegraph office addressed to the Chief Minister, Revenue Minister, Chief Secretary and

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the I. G. P. on that day i. e. 24th about this matter. This telegram was a detailed telegram running quite long and I had to spend nearly Rs. 20/- or so to draw the attention of the Government to this matter. I also sent a copy of it to you, Sir, saying that if the Government would not take any effective action to stop these and arrange return of normally and re-habilitation of these people, I might be allowed to draw the attention of the House during Zero Hour. Even after sending of the said telegram when in the evening again I found people were coming to my house, I immediately contacted the Chief Secretary at about 5.30 P. M. and the S. D. O., Mangaldoi, at about 4.30 P. M. The Chief Secretary as well as the I. G. P. both stated that they knew nothing about these incident, whereas the S. D. O., Mangaldoi, seemed to be in a complete oblivion not giving any careful attention to the matters happening in

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his area. The people who came to see me reported that not only they had been beaten and harassed but the Police had also opened fire in the house of one sahajuddin of laodang village at the dead of night i.e. to say at 3 a. m. and they produced a bullet before me. Then I came to the Assembly on the 26th and enquired of the Revenue Minister who was in charge of this matter during the absence of the Chief Minister I was surprised to hear from the Minister that he had not received my telegram. I gave him a copy of it with a note. But then, it was rather an anigma that even after 40 or 50 hours of my Sending it he had not received my telegram. I, therefore, immediately wrote to the Director of Telegraphs saying that I had sent such a telegram to such V. I. Ps including the Speaker and the Chief Minister and why it had not been delivered

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as yet. The Director of Telegraphs after an enquiry informed me yesterday over the telephone that these telegrams numbering 59, 60, 61 and 62 were delivered to all concerned between 11.45 to 12.45 or so on 24-3-69. He also told me that he would confirm it in writing. I handed over the telegram at Gauhati at 9.30 a.m. and I have got a receipt to show that. I was now told that they have delivered at Shillong between 11.45 to 12.45 the same day. Mr. Speaker, Sir, even last night the Minister of Revenue told me that he had not received it, this was after I had told him that the Director of Telegraphs had confirmed about its delivery to him. I understand from your officer, Sir, that this telegram had been received in your office as well. These appears to be no reaction why the Minister's office should not receive it at the same time. This is a very serious matter. That the telegram of which in a matter like this a Member of the Legislative Assembly tried to draw the attention

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of the Government, should not have been placed before the Minister by his office, that even till yesterday the Minister would not know about it, are serious matters. I would request the Government to make an enquiry and find out the officer as to who received it and the persons who did not draw the attention of the Minister concerned to such an important matter containing allegations that there was firing by the police and harassment of people and that steps should be taken against further recurrence. After this I again talked with the I. G. P.; he said his Superintendent of Police had denied that such an occurrence had taken place. I understand Shri Bahadur Basumatari, M. L. A. from this side and Shri Matlebuddin, M. L. A. from the other side of the house had been to these villages and they had seen these villages being deserted and to them also complaints about such harassments were made to the villages I would like to know from the Government what steps have been taken

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I would also request the Government to hold a judicial enquiry into the whole incident. I would also request the Government that they should arrange for registering their cases by talking First information Report from these people and ensuring proper investigation by officers who are considered impartial and efficient. I would like to know as to what steps have been taken by the Government to bring normally in the area.

I would like to tell you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that this is not the first instance of police harassment in Mangaldoi. On 1st March, 1969, one Is haque Ali, despite the fact that he obtained an injunction order in Tital suit No. 131 of 1968 against his deportation, he was arrested in the Court compound and forcibly deported by a Police Inspector; his name is there, His name is Mahesh Kalita, Inspector of police. As far back as on 1st March, 1969, I wrote a letter to the Revenue Minister drawing his attention to this matter. I

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have a copy of that letter with me. He, on 8th March, 1969, replied to me that he was enquiring into the matter and he would give me a reply very soon and that this letter was merely an acknowledgement. On a serious matter like this, when a citizen has been forcibly deported against the Courts order, happened in February last till to-day I have not got the reply as to why and how he should be deported when Government in this House had said that nobody had been deported or will be deported against the laws of the land. But here is a specific case to which I drew the attention of the Government, till now it is unreplied. I will give one more instance of harassment. On 6th March the police went to the house of one Abdul Latif of village Kapatti in Mangaldoi. This man had a civil suit pending with a stay order against his deportation. The police went to his house at the dead of the night. Under what law the police can go to anybody's house at

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3 A. M. like this? Is not the police aware of the legal provisions in this behalf. I do not know what made the police to go to the house between the hours of sunset and sunrise. They went there and demanded coming out of the members of the family of that man. When they refused to come out, it is alleged, fire was set on the house to compel them to come out and everything was burnt. After burning the houses and after arresting some of the inmates the police had started a case against them for setting fire to their own houses. We are to believe the police that the owner of the house set fire to it to burn down his own property. These are some of the instances of lawlessness by police themselves in Mangaldoi. Same thing is going on in other places too. But in Mangaldoi it has gone beyond proportion. I know the Revenue Minister will stand up and say that the police had denied all these allegations and his S.D.O. had denied anything happening against law. He will then say.

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We have done nothing wrong. We are only trying to arrest them. Yes, let them arrest the people whose names are in the F. I. R. But to go and search every house in the villages and to do all kinds of atrocities and to make the people of two villages fugitives to take shelter in the jungles and fly away to Gauhati and roam about are not the ways to arrest some persons connected with an insident. I want to know as to what steps the Government have taken to stop these things.

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : Sir, regarding the telegram which Shri Haque Choudhury has stated that he has sent to me, even now I repeat, Sir, the telegram somehow or other has not reached me. On day before yesterday, Shri Haque Choudhury told me personally about the incident. As soon as I got the information from him, I contacted the I. G. P., and the I. G. P, also at that time was not aware of this fact. He immediately rang up the Supertintendent of Police,

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Tezpur and he has collected the information. Sir, about the letter which he has referred, to which acknowledgement has been sent from our side, the facts are being collected. As soon as the facts are collected, I will send the detailed reply the letter. Sir, about other matters which he has referred I have no information up till now. These matters will be looked into where facts are thrown to us. Regarding the incidents in Mangaldoi area Sir, I am submitting that the facts which Shri Haque Choudhury has received, I think, are not based on full facts.

On 19.3.69, Shri Jibon Bora along with Constable K. Kalita and G. Ojha visited Sibpur villager under Udalguri P.S, in the course of his P. I. P. work. He learnt that one Afsar Ali suspected to be a Pak national was concealing himself in the area. With the help of local villagers Abdul Khaliq, Wahab and Makshed Ali, he was able to locate him. He took him for being dealt with as per law. At that stage one Mohesh Diwami met

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the S. I. and told him of the existence of some other suspected Pak National in the area viz Hasen Ali, the brother of Afsar Ali and their family. He requested the S. I. to stay for the day at Laudang Watch Post so as to enable him to produce Hassan Ali and their family before the S. I. for being dealt with as per legal procedure. S. I. Jibon Bora agreed to halt for the night at Laudang Watch Post, keeping Afsar Ali with the help of Constable and V. D. P. members.

It is learnt that on the very night a secret meeting was held in the house of one Mumtaz of Sibpur village attended by many villagers of Sibpur and Laudang area. The meeting was addressed by Shah Diwami a strong supporter of Jamiet UI Ulema and a notorious character with several heinous crimes to his record along with Miraz and Inus Diwani. The speakers advised the audience consisting of many Pak infiltrators to resist by all means Police action against Pak infiltrants.

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Next day (20.3.69) morning S. I. Jibon Bora found that Hassan Ali and his family were not turning up at the Watch Post although promised by Mahesh Dewani. He sent his two Constables to the house of Gaon Panchayat President, Kuddus Ali and Sukur Dewani to find out Hassan Ali and his family. Meanwhile he proceeded towards the house of Lat Mandal along with Afsar Ali and accompanied by Abdul Khalique, Makshed Ali and Wahab. Suddenly Hassan Ali appeared at the spot along with a batch of about 30 Muslims armed with lathis, daos, etc. and began to assault S. I. Jibon Bora. They robbed him of his cross belt, baton wrist watch and also his leather bag containing some important notes about the area. They inflicted multiple grievous injuries all over the body from head to foot of S. I. Jibon Bora and rescued the suspect Pak National Afsar Ali from him. S. I. Jibon Bora is also suspected to have received rib fracture which is to be confirmed only after X'Ray for which arrangements are under way. They also

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beat up Abdul Khalique, Makshed Ali and Wahab. They dragged the S. I. to the house of Afsar Ali and kept him confined there. Jiar, Afsar and Hassan shouted that they should finish off S. I. Jibon Bora as desired by Shah Dewani. They set fire to the house in which Jibon Bora was kept confined apparently with a view to roast him alive. Luckily one Azimuddin sensed the gravity of the situation and rescued him by bringing him out of the house which was completely gutted. They also rescued Inus Dewani and Miraz Dewani of Laudang village who were caught by V. D. P. members for assaulting the police party.

Meanwhile O/C Udalguri got the information about the incident through one Abdul Haque and he visited the spot with available force. He found S. I. Jibon Bora lying on the ground with grievous injuries on his body and also saw Wahab, Abdul Khaleeqe and Makshed with injuries. He took up 2 cases under investigation viz: case

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No. 10(3) 69 U/s. 147/149/353/325/320/341/255/379/307
I. P. C. lodged by S.I. Jibon Bora and case No. 11
(3) 69 U/s. 436 I. P. C. lodged by Azimuddin. S.I.
Jibon Bora was hospitalised at Udalguri Primary
Health Centre. Abdul Khaleeqe, Wahab and
Makshed Ali were discharged after first aid.

A wireless message was received by the S. P.
at about 3 P.M. on 20.3.69 stating that O/e
Udalguri had rushed to the spot for rescuing S. I.
Jibon Bora. A message was flashed by the S. P.
to the S. D. P. O., Mangaldoi to proceed to the
spot immediately with adequate force and rescue
the S. I. besides ensuring proper arrest of guilty
persons. The S. P. had suggested to the S.D.P.O.
that he may take a Magistrate in consultation with
the S. D. O. The S. D. P. O. Mangaldoi proceeded
to the spot along with the Magistrate and took
up supervision of the investigation. The Additio-
nal S. P. along with Inspector P. I. P. proceeded
to the spot on 21.3.69. He found on arrival that
the accused persons had fled away with their families.

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S. D. O. (Civil) visited the area on 21.3.69 and apprised himself of the incident. A search was also organised on the morning of 22.3.69 under the direct supervision of the Magistrate, Addl. S. P., S. D. P. O. and C. I. and they were able to arrest 22 suspects. During the search one suspect Pak National was also apprehended along with a big spear which he kept ready for darting at the police. The ring leaders, however, were absconding.

The D. C. and S. P. visited the spot on 22.3.69 and they spent quite some time in meeting the local people. The Gaon Panchayat President, Kuddus Ali narrated in detail the way in which the S. I. Jibon Bora was brutally assaulted. Azimuddin described how he had saved S. I. from being burnt alive. The D. C. exhorted to them that Indian Muslims should come forward and expose the nefarious activities of Pak infiltrants who had taken shelter in the area. The Gaon Panchayat President Kuddus Ali gave a pathetic account of how people like Abdul Rahim and his brothers were threatened

by Shah Dewani and others on 21.3.69 at Lalpul Bazar for helping the Police in detection of Pak infiltrants. The D. C. assured the Indian citizens of all help. With a view to provide adequate security to these Indian Muslims whose lives had been threatened by Pak infiltrants a force of 1½ Section of Assam Batallion was posted with an S.I. at Laudang Watch Post. During our enquiry none of the villagers made any complaint against Police of looting or arson. The accused persons did not appear before the D. C. and S. P. as they were dodging. They also visited Udalguri Hospital.

This is all I have to say.

Re : GRIEVANCES OF THE PRIMARY TEACHERS

*Shri Hiralal Prtowary :—মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই অতি দুখেৰে এটা কথা এই সন্দনৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিব খুজিছো। সেইটো হৈছে অসমৰ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষক সকলৰ কিছুমান অভিযোগ। অসমৰ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষক সকলে অসম চৰকাৰৰ লগত ভাল সম্বন্ধ বজাই ৰাখি আহিছে আৰু সেইটো সৰ্বভাৰতীয় শিক্ষক সকলে মানি লৈছে আৰু ঘোষণাও কৰিছে। সেইমতে অসম চৰকাৰৰ ওপৰত বিশ্বাস ৰাখি অসমৰ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষক সকলে তেওঁলোকৰ

* Speech not corrected

প্ৰস্তাবিত ধৰ্ম্মঘটৰ পৰা বিৰত থাকিবলৈ সিদ্ধান্ত লৈছে আৰু সেইমতে প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষক সকলে ধৰ্ম্মঘট প্ৰত্যাহাৰও কৰিছে। ইতিমধ্যে এই বিষয়ে আলোচনা কৰি ২১ টা দাবীৰ অভিযোগ দাখিল কৰা হৈছে। এই দাবীবোৰৰ সুবিধা চৰকাৰে দি আহিছে ই নতুন দাবি নহয়। মই এটা উদাহৰণ দিছো।

Mr. Speaker :—Our rule is very Specific. Don't utilise the time at the cost of our programme. Only if you have no other way to ventilate your grievances, you will be allowed to speak but you must speak only the most important points.

Shri Hiralal Patowary :—সেই কাৰণে আজি চৰকাৰে নিজে দিয়া প্ৰস্তাৱৰ কথা কৈছো।

প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষক সকলক ৬ টকাকৈ benefit দি আহিছে, সেইমতে ৬ মাহৰ পৰা বঢ়িয়াত দিছেও। এই সম্পৰ্কে এইবিলাক সভাবে ৭ লাখ টকা পাচ কৰিছে অথচ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষক সকলক দিবলগীয়া টকাখিনি দিয়া নাই। এনে ধৰণে চৰকাৰে মানিলে যদি সৰ্বভাৰতীয় প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষক সকলে এই অশুবিধা পোৱাৰ কাৰণে কি কৰিব সেইটো চৰকাৰেও জানে। আমাৰ এতিয়া উপায় নাই। অহা ৫ এপ্ৰিলৰ পৰা বিধান সভাৰ সন্মুখত এই উদ্যোগে অনিৰ্দিষ্ট কাললৈ অনমন আৰম্ভ কৰিম। তেওঁলোক অসমৰে হওক

বা অসমৰ বাহিৰে হওক ৰাজনৈতিক উদ্যোগেৰে এইটো কৰা নাই। পৰিস্থিতিয়ে বাধ্য কৰাইছে। মই যোৱা কালি প্ৰশ্ন কালত ইয়াৰ স্পষ্ট জবাব নাপালো। ৬ টকা প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষক সকলক দিব লাগে আৰু পাইও আহিছে। তেওঁলোকে শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী, মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী, বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰী বৃন্দৰ সহানুভূতিও পাই আহিছে। আৰু ভাবিছিলো in due course ত এইটো হৈ যাব। কিন্তু এইটো নকৰাৰ কাৰণে প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষক সকলে আন্দোলন কৰিবলৈ বাধ্য হৈ পৰিছে।

Mr. Speaker :— This is going to be a debate on certain grievances of a party. Our rule does not cover such a debate. You have given the indication that you are going to do certain thing. But I don't think Government has any thing to reply.

Shri Hiralal Patwary :— ৫ এপ্ৰিলৰ পৰা অনশন হ'ব। তাৰ আগতে জবাব দিব লাগিব।

Mr. Speaker :— Mr. Syed Ahmed Ali, do you have anything to reply ?

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er strike by the students of the Jorhat
Engineering College

Shri Syed Ahmed Ali :— I have nothing to
reply.

Sir, yesterday I promised to give a state-
ment about the threatened hunger strike by the
students of the Jorhat Engineering College. They
met the Chief Minister on 16th November, 1968
and submitted their resolutions. I like to inform
the House about their demands and the steps
we have taken on these till to-day.

Sir, the students of Jorhat Engineering Coll-
ege in a general meeting held on 8-3-69 adopted
the following resolutions :—

1. The persons responsible for beating the
students must be brought to light.

2. The existing liquor shop on the side of
the college road must be removed to some other

locality far away from the college or the roads leading to it.

3. Proper transport facilities must be provided to the students, teachers and other people residing in the college area to travel between the college and the town.

4. The entire portion of the road between the town and college must be provided with street lights for the safety of pedestrians.

5. A Police out post must be provided near the college. This is very essential taking in view of the place where the college is located.

6. Proper steps must be taken so as to remove all the anti-social elements residing in an area of two miles surrounding the college. This area must be declared institutional area.

The Government have carefully considered their demands and following steps have been taken :—

Resolution No. 1. On the night of 6th March at 9 A. M. trouble took place between the stu-

dents of Jorhat Engineering College and some drunkards on the road near the Punjab workshop located at about 3 furlongs from Garali, and as a result the disturbance was going on and the crowd swell up and was excited and tried to break the houses to find the inmates. The Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police with the Police force arrived on the spot and the situation was brought under control. The matter is now under police investigation.

Resolution 2. The Commissioner of Excise has been requested to take early steps to shift the liquor shop from the present site.

Resolution No. 3 The Deputy Commissioner who is also the Chairman of the R. T. A. has been requested to increase the number of trips of buses on this route. At present the Bus Association is not interested to ply buses more than 2 or 3 trips in a day due to limited number of passengers on this route.

Resolution No. 4 As the State Electricity Board has refused to extend the town street

lighting in the street which is about 1.7 miles from the town to College campus, Government is taking steps to provide lights departmentally and P. W. D. has already been asked to submit plans and estimates to this effect for approval.

Resolution No. 5 Home Department has been requested to take steps for establishment of a Police Out-post near the college campus.

Resolution No. 6 For removal of anti-social elements residing in the College area, Deputy Commissioner has been asked to take necessary steps

The Principal of the College and the Director of Technical Education have also been informed of the action taken by the Govt. in the matter. The Principal, Jorhat Engg. College has also been requested to persuade the students not to resort to strike as the Govt. are taking all possible steps to meet their grievances.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua :— Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the students have already called off the Strike?

Shri Syed Ahmed Ali:— I have no further information to give now at hand.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Item No. 2

Mr. Speaker :— There are two identical notices from two hon. Members. Prior notice was received from Shri Govinda Kalita on 9-3-69 and the second notice was received on 13-3-69. So, I now ask Shri Kalita to move.

Shri Govinda Kalita :— Sir, I beg to call attention of the Chief Minister, under Rule 54 or the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly to the news item published in Saptahik Nilachal, dated 5th March, 1969 under the caption.

“সীমান্তত বিদেশী চক্ৰৰ বাহুবোৰী কাৰ্য্যকলাপ—বিদেশী মুদ্ৰাৰ উত্থানদী আন্তৰ্জাতিক যড়যন্ত্ৰৰ আশংকা কেন্দ্ৰ আৰু ৰাজ্যৰ মন্ত্ৰী, উচ্চ বিষয়া জৰিত বুলি সন্দেহ”

মহোদয়, যিহেতু এইটো গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ সংবাদ, আৰু বাহুব সার্বভৌমতা আৰু শাস্তি শৃঙ্খলা বিপদাপন্ন কৰাৰ সম্ভবনা সেই কাৰণেই মই সংবাদটো পঢ়ি গুনাইছো। সংবাদটো চমুকৈ পঢ়ি দিছো—

“অসম আৰু মণিপুৰৰ সীমান্তৰ পৰ্বতীয়া জনজাতী অঞ্চলত যোৱা কেইবাবছৰো ধৰি এক বিদেশী ৰাষ্ট্ৰৰ পৰা পৰিচালিত অথবা ৰাষ্ট্ৰৰ বিৰোধী কাৰ্য্যকলাপ চলি আছে আৰু এই বিদেশী চক্ৰৰ সৈতে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ এজন উপমন্ত্ৰী নগাৰাজ্য চৰকাৰৰ এজন মন্ত্ৰীকে ধৰি অসম আৰু মণিপুৰৰ কেইবাজনো সৰ্বভাৰতীয় সেৱাৰ উচ্চ প্ৰশাসনীয় বিষয়াও জৰিত থকাৰ এক অবিস্বাস্য, বিম্বয়কৰ আৰু অত্যন্ত চাঞ্চলকৰ কাহিনীৰ বিৱৰণ সম্পত্তি আমাৰ হাতত পৰিছে।”

ইয়াত যিবিলাক কথা লিখিছে তাৰ প্ৰমাণ হিচাবে মই কেইটামান কথা দেখুৱাব খুজিছো। এইখন আমেৰিকান বুলেটিন। নাম Sielmate Sattle ইয়াৰ এটা কথা মাত্ৰ পঢ়ি শুনাও In the Cachar and Haflong. Districts of A sam we have made biggest advance. Every new villaages have been reached and occupied

Mr. Speaker : ইয়াত পঢ়ি শুনাৰ নালাগে।

Shri Govinda Kalita :— এইখন বুলেটিনৰ নাম Partnership এইখনত ছবিৰে সৈতে দেখুৱাইছে কেনেকৈ ভাৰতীয় লৰা-ছোৱালী বিদেশত প্ৰচাৰ হৈছে। আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ লগত যি correspondence সেইবোৰো ইয়াত আছে। নেযাবৰ কাৰণে চপোৱা এইখন Advertisement এই গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ কথা বিলাকৰ সম্পৰ্কত মই মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰীৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিলো।

* SHRI DULAL CHANDRA BARUA :— Mr. Speaker, Sir, as it has already been stated, I would like to draw the attention of the Government of this matter, because it concerns security of the entire State and the country as a whole. So far may information goes—as you know Sir, we have been surrounded by hostile nations and in this State itself, so many anti-social elements are functioning and fissiparous tendencies are going on. Now, if it is so, to my mind, it is a very serious thing both for internal security and external security also. Government should take appropriate action not to allow these things to go on more so in the name of propagating them by outsiders than by the Government officials, both Nagaland and Assam. As quoted in the news, some top leaders like Nagaland Cabinet Minister as well as one Union Deputy Minister are involved. We have been apprehending for years together that some foreign elements are at work to create disturbance in this State. We have bitter experience of Nagaland and of what is going on in the Mizo Hills now.

* Speech not corrected

Therefore, considering all these aspects we want to know whether Government has taken any action just to curb the disturbing elements and whether any appropriate action has been taken against those people who are at hand to create dissension in the minds of the people thus disrupting the law and order situation in the State with the help of foreign element. Therefore, it is a serious matter concerning the integrity of the State and the country as a whole. Therefore, I want to draw the pointed attention of the Govt. to this matter and want to know what definite steps have been taken so far for the peace and prosperity of the frontier region.

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury (Minister Parliamentary Affairs) : — Mr. Speaker, Sir, The news-item referred to in the Call Attention notice mostly refers to the incident that is going on in Manipur State and the name of Minister referred to is of Nagaland. Therefore, Sir, all the points raised by the hon. Members we may not be able to reply and as the notice came up at a late stage all the

necessary information could not be collected from the Govt. of Nagaland, Govt. of Manipur and also from the Govt. of India. I am only giving a general reply to the Call Attention Motion which I think effects our State.

Sir, the mission named therein has its main centre at Churachandpur in Manipur and therefore this Govt. has not got as yet full informations about the details of what has been stated in the newsitem. The Mission has also started two centres in Cachar as stated in the newsitem. There are however, no foreign missionaries in these centres.

One Shri Rosanga a Mizo who is reported to have since acquired American Citizenship is understood to be the main figure in organising the Mission centre and rendering assistance from America. The information is however, further enquired into.

The College at Churachandpur run by the Mission is also reported to have two senior

officers of the Government in its managing Committee. One of the officers Shri C. L. Rema I. A. S., has since resigned from service and has joined the Church. There is no bar as such in an officer becoming member of a Governing Body of a College.

As earlier stated, the particular centres within our State have no foreign missionaries. With regard to foreign missionaries the Govt. policy is one of replacement by Indians.

For this purpose, certain areas of the State have been regarded as more sensitive where quicker replacement of the foreigners by Indians is being insisted upon.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :— Sir, may I suggest one thing in this connections? The matter is extremely and extraordinarily serious because it involves the safety and security of India. Will, therefore, our Govt. send all the information and papers available to the Govt. of India so that the Govt. of India may make a

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full and through probe into the matter because it is almost a known fact that there are some elements who want to shift their centre of activity now from Viet Nam and Saigon towards the Assam Hills region covering Mizo Hills, Manipur, Nagaland and probably the Assam Hills range also. So, will the Government kindly send all the papers and necessary informations available up till now to the Govt. of India so that the conspiracy may be enquired into before it is too late.

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury :— Sir, I welcome the suggestion.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES (REPORT NO. 3)

Shri Ataur Rahman (Chairman, Committee of Privileges) :—

Sir, I beg to move that the Report of the Committee of Privileges on the matter relating to complaint against the Asom Batori (Report No. 3) which was placed in the House on the 8th March, 1969 be adopted.

(The Motion was adopted)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES (REPORT NO. 4)

Shri Ataur Rahman (Chairman, Committee of Privileges) :—

Sir, I beg to move that the Report of the Committee of Privileges on the matter relating to complaint against the Natun Asamiya (Report No. 4) which was placed in the House on 8th March, 1969 be adopted.

(The Motion was adopted)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (5th REPORT)

Shri Dharanidhar Choudhury :— Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report of the Committee on Petitions relating to the petitions submitted by Swami Jogananda Giri and two others

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER

Mr. Speaker : I, hereby inform the House that Shri Bishnu Prasad Rava, an elected Member of the Assam Legislative Assembly representing

Tezpur Constituency has duly submitted an application for leave of absence from the Assam Legislative Assembly with effect from the 19th February, 1969 to 10th April, 1969 i.e., 52 days which reads like this :—

“10

The Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly, Shillong.

Camp — Bombay,

The 10th March, 1969.

Sir,

I have the honour to say that I have been suffering since last September and under advice from the Doctors of the Gauhati Medical College Hospital, I am undergoing treatment here at Bombay now. I am therefore unable to attend the sittings of the current Budget Session of the Assembly. I do not know when the Hospital authority will release me.

I, therefore, request you to be so good as to permit me to remain absent from the sittings of the Assembly from the 19.2.69 to 10.4.69 both days inclusive.

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Yours faithfully,

Sd/- Bishnu Prasad Rava, M. L. A."

I think the House will grant leave of absence prayed for in the application. Is it the sense of the House that the leave of absence is granted to the hon'ble Member ?

(Voices :— yes, yes)

Leave is granted.

Mr. Speaker :— Here is a message from the Governor. It runs as follows :

"Raj Bhavan"

Shillong, the 24th March, 1969.

Under the provision of Article 207 (1) of the Constitution of India, I, Braj Kumar Nehru, Governor of Assam, recommend the introduction in the Assam Legislative Assembly of the Assam Appropriation (no. II) Bill, 1969.

S/d- B. K. Nehru

Governor of Assam.

Shri Kamakya Prasad Tripathi (Minister, Finance)

Speech Not Corrected

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:- Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1969 relating to the Demand for Grants for 1969-70.

(Leave is granted)

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi (Minister, Finance) :- Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1969.

(The Bill was introduced)

Mr. Speaker :- Here is a message from the Governor which runs as follows.

“Raj Bhavan

Shillong, the 24th March 1969.

Under the provision of Article 207 (3) of the Constitution of India, I, Braj Kumar Nehru, Governor of Assam, recommend that the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1969 be taken into consideration by the Assam Legislative Assembly.

Sd/- B. K. Nehru,
Governor of Assam.”

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Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi (Minister, Finance) :— Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1969 be taken into consideration.

Mr. Speaker :— Motion moved. I would like to draw the attention of all the hon. members to Rules 154(3) of the Rules of Procedure, which probably hon. Member Shri Bhattacharyya would have referred to, that the debate on an Appropriation Bill shall be restricted to matters of public importance or administrative policy implied in the grants covered by the Bill which have not already been raised while the relevant demands for grants were under consideration.

* Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :— We are thankful to you, Sir, for bringing this to our notice. Sometimes, it so happens that we run astray and we shall be grateful if you would sometimes remind us if we go a little astray.

* Speech not corrected

Sir, unfortunately for reasons best known to all of us some of the very important demands could not be discussed on the floor of this House during the demands for grants. We are not blaming anybody for that, only we are submitting that some very important demands are left out and those important demands related to the basic question like, labour, peasantry that is agriculture. I have been saying for the last 3 years that so far as the present position and the necessity of the tempo of development of our State is concerned two things must get top most priority. These two things are Agriculture and Education. (Mr. Speaker left the Chair and Mr. Deputy Speaker occupied it). In order to give that tempo a meaning and purpose the class which must take initiative with all enthusiasm, may be the working class including of course the working peasantry. Now, Sir, I shall therefore, so far as my observations will come try to confine myself to these aspects of the matter. But before I go there I should like to submit

that I was a little dismayed when some hon. Members of this House and they are all well-meaning and honest people, when they said that they are not so sorry for a deficit budget, because after all the Finance Minister has not come with any taxation proposal. I wish that the hon. Members considered the matter a little deeper and if they would, they would probably they have this complacency. Sir, the direct taxation is a hard thing to bear-the indirect tax is worse and the deficit financing is the worse of all things, that ought to have been appreciated and understood particularly when that deficit is brought by a State Govt. which is not sovereign. Sir, even in the limited scope unlike the States of America it is all the worst. We should remember that in spite of our Constitution being in form federal our federalism fundamentally differs from American federation because the residuary power of the American constitution is with the constituent States, whereas the residuary power of the Indian federation lies with the Centre. As matter

of fact it is only recently that federalism has become a movement and different States not only the Congress governed States but even the States administered by the Congress Party are feeling that in order to make Indian democracy meaningful and purposeful and effective it is only the federal form which can be lasting and developing. Sir, in that context enlightened Finance Minister like ours ought to have been helping in coming to an amicable dialogue with the Centre in these matters instead of taking resort to pressure. Sir, so far as the Government of India is concerned it is also year after year giving deficit budgets and we know Sir, that our public debt and the public debt of the Government of India is also rising up. But those who are realistic in political sphere they know that some of these foreign loans are not meant to be repaid. They will be either written off or they will remain there on the paper. Therefore, the Government of India being itself a Govt. of a sovereign state can afford to float loans, take loans not only from

inside the country but also from outside. But so far as the State Government is concerned it cannot escape the duty and responsibility of repaying the loans. Therefore, the State Government should be particularly careful in this matter. I have already said that, I do not like to respect that the interest and service of these loans take quite a big slice of our revenue. Now, we have been taking over-drafts from the Reserve Bank inspite of the advice of the Government of India. Now the Govt. of India is recently rather harsh in issuing warnihgs against this system. I read in the Newspaper that our Finance Minister reacted harshly against those words of the Union Finance Minister. If I would have ben the Union Finance Minister under the present context probably I would have harsher to advised the Reserve Bank to stop giving any unauthoris-d overdrafts to the States. Because he will be failing in his duty if he would allow the State Govts. to have unbridled over-drafts from the Reserve Bank of India.

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The remedy is not in taking over-drafts. The remedy shall have to be found elsewhere. Second, thing is that falling in line with the Union Govt. The different State Govts. are now presenting deficit budgets. As a matter of fact there has been a competition who can present a budget with bigger amount of deficit. The apparent purpose is that they want to black mail the Govt. of India and they want to convince the Finance Commission to get special attention for these things. That is the truth with regard to Assam, that is the truth with regard to other States. Now, as the thing is quite obvious, I do not think it will have any effect either on the Union Finance Minister or the Govt. of India - they are intelligent enough to understand that this is only a measure of pressure and a special type of argument which in the ordinary parlances called Black Mailing.' Therefore, I submit that this has not been proper, and what after all the effect will be - wherefrom we shall meet up this deficit ?

The Union Government's deficit and the cumulative deficit of all the States will make a very huge figure and to that extent Morarji Desai will use his Printing Machine and there will be inflation. Everybody knows that if inflation helps anybody it is only the big capitalists and if inflation hurts anybody it is only the poorer section of the people. Therefore, deficit budget, in the present context and not always, in the present context the deficit budget in India and in all the States have been against the fundamental interest of the common people, the common workers, the common peasants and the common middle class people. I therefore cannot agree with the Finance Minister in his approach of the budget which has given such a huge deficit. In this context, Sir, I cannot check the temptation to request our Finance Minister to find out some time in spite of his preoccupations to once more go through some chapters of Parkinson's, "The Law & the Profits", particularly, the second Law and

in order to immediately draw his attention to some relevant matters I want to refer to 2 short paragraphs from this book. I hope, I shall be allowed this indulgence. I am reading it. "The public revenue is regard as limitless and expenditure rises eternally to meet it, and the various devices which are supposed to check expenditure fail to do so, being wrongly conceived and imperfectly motivated. The problem is a serious one and would seem to merit our attention. What is to be done? The modern instinct is to frame now regulations and laws, of which there are already more than enough. The better plan, less fashionable to-day, is to re-motivate the people actually concerned, penalizing the extravagance we now reward and rewarding the economy we now penalize." Let me explain it. When we talk of the achievements of our targets, we talk in terms of spending money that so many crores of rupees for a road built has been spent but we do not measure the length of the road that so many miles of road has been done. Instead

of measuring it physically, instead of considering the matter from the physical achievement we generally measure it from the financial achievement, that is to say, what amount we have been able to spend. And that department is given good certificate of good performance which department spends more. In other words, he who spends more, is rewarded and who is lavish is rewarded and he, who is cautious is generally criticised. In the present condition of our economy, I therefore, submit in the same tone as Parkinson's that the better plan, though less fashionable would be to penalize the extravagances we now reward and reward the economy we now penalize. Then he says, "As a first step towards redirecting the flood, we need to reverse the whole process of government finance. Ministers should not begin by ascertaining what the departments need. They should begin by asking what the country can afford to spend." Because afterall, the money comes from the country, from the tax payers. "We do not base our

personal budget on what our past extravagances have taught us to like but on the income we can fairly expect to receive. We do not plan to spend what we have not got. The same principle should apply to public as it does to individual finance. Particularly, when that public is one constituting the State, a federation like that of India. The first question to decide is the ratio between the revenue and the gross national product. What proportion of the national income should the Government demand? What proportion of the individual's income can the Government safely take? And what happens when that proportion is exceeded? Economists have fought shy of this problem, allowing it to be assumed that, where government expenditure is concerned, the sky is the limit." As though there is no limit. In other words, they never consider the source of the income. Simply they say, these are the expenditure we must have. And therefore, the inevitable result is that the Minister. inance is to come with a deficit budget because every department says this is our indessen

sible minimum, we cannot do with less than that. Sir, the Supply Minister who is sitting in front of me, he is also probably the Minister in charge of that Standard Cloth, the Minister of Textile Department. The employees in that department have got nothing to do - at least 100 idle persons are getting their money for nothing - an absolute waste.

Shri Ramesh Barooah (Minister, Supply): Sir recently the O & M Division went through our department and they said that Supply Department is short of 29 persons.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya: -Sir, I do not want to bring in this matter. It is not my habit to bring a matter I do not know. But do not tell me anything about the O & M Division. In order to make economy we set up an Economic committee and that Economic Committee instead of economising, would be giving such proposals which bring greater expenditure. This Mrs. Trivedi, she may be able to write big volumes but she will never be able to bring down expenditure. These officers, if you put them for bringing economy, they will only

increase expenditure and never bring it down. Unfortunately, our law Ministers do not know and they are not expected to know.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi (Minister, Finance):—This shortage in the Supply Department is because a good many employees have been taken in the F. C. I. and such other organisations.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :—I am not making any personal accusation. If I was in his place, probably I would have been a victim in the same manner because this bureaucracy is the tightest and the most stubborn service in this whole world and this service will never allow you to make any economy. In this context, I may again refer to this Parkinson. About civil service he said, "It is not to be supposed that the reform of the national finances would be unopposed. In this field of administration the reformer will be faced, inevitably by a closed phalanx of civil servants"—these I.A.S. officers. It is not for nothing that we are very critical of these I.A.S. officers. They are the root of all evils.

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They mislead the Minister; they mislead the country and the phalanx is so powerful that nobody can pierce them, not even a bullet can pierce it. "Phalanx of civil servants representing one of the strongest vested interests in the world". These are not my words Sir, these are the words of the world's renowned critic and writer, "they represent one of the strongest vested interest in the world. Their position though passive will be formidable. To all proposals for a proper system of accounts they will reply with a pitying smile". They pity the Ministers that these people have come here by some how or other or by bribery and they want to boss over us. What do they know? They know nothing. This is the type of attitude. If you ask them "can you do it?" "They will say "yes sir, yes sir" and in your presence they will go on yes sirring. But immediately after that in your absence they will say 'what do they know? these bribers and these demagogues'? That is the attitude the phalanx of the vested interest has. "To all proposals for a proper system of accounts they will

reply with a pitying smile that it was tried once at the War Office, found wasteful and long ago abandoned. They will then retire behind a smoke screen of technical mysteries". They will utter some terms - infrastructure, self-generating. "Behind a smoke of screen of technical mysteries and muttering finally that public finance is more complex a matter than is generally realised". At least by these demagogues and public orators. "Figures cannot lie" That is what Parkinson says. "Liars can figure". Therefore you start an Organisation & Method Division and the result will be that if you have got now a wasteful scheme then the Economy Committee will bring in a more wasteful one. Therefore, if we want actually to minimise the expenditure the first thing is to attack on the theory with regard to the phalanx of civil service. Unless and until this wrong is broken, unless and until we ourselves do everything possible to understand the things instead of depending entirely on them and try to remember little of the things and possibilities it will be impossible to

tackle the problem properly. With regard to the theory of deficit financing without tax, I beg to repeat Sir, that deficit budget particularly in such context is worse even than in direct tax. Because ultimately that will bring in paper money which means inflation. Now Sir, one thing that the class which shall have to take the lead is the working class. In this matter the class which need to be liquidated in this period. I do not mean the person, I mean the class. That is to say the system of Zamindary. Unless and until the feudalism that is to say the Zamindary system is liquidated you cannot bring the socialism. In order to bring capitalist socialism you must go through the bourgeois democratic capitalist system. That may be either by individual effort or that may be by the combined social efforts. Now what is the process? The other day the Revenue Minister said that 'we have passed many laws agrarian reform laws and all these things. But have you implemented the? The answer is 'no'. Then it is worse. I have said it in the Committee where I sat. I

have said to that Committee which is behind the doors and is not for public consumption, that I am not in favour of too many laws. I am in favour of less number of laws and there should be effective and full implementation of the few laws we pass. If we make 5 agrarian reform laws and implement only one or two then let us pass only one or two laws and implement them. Simply by passing laws the things cannot be improved. Long long ago the Government of India passed the law for acquiring the Zamindaries and the Government of Assam also followed it. But the Government of Assam know or ought to know that Zamindars have not died; Zamindars have grown. Now the Zamindars have grown at the cost of industries. How? As for example, the tea estates, though partly it is partly agrarian and partly industrial. We therefore, take it as an industry. Now what happened? Every where, particularly in Cachar tea gardens are converted into zamindary. Not only in Cachar in Brahmaputra valley also. Now tea gardens are being sold by the erstwhile

owners to the new purchasers. Who are the new purchasers? They are, those who made black money in the war time by black-marketing the war disposals and contracts. They managed to purchase in Calcutta and elsewhere tea estates at a small value. Thereafter they have converted them into zamindary by pieces they are selling and minting huge profit. Perhaps the Revenue Minister is not here. In his own constituency there existed a tea garden and that tea garden was famous for good tea. It is there in name. Now it is a zamindari and per bigha of land is being sold at Rs. 1000/-because it is near about Gauhati on the National High Way. Now what was the price when they purchased it from the European owners? At Rs. 50/-per bigha because they purchased it as tea estate. What will happen to the labourers? Hundreds of labourers are there out of service. There is Trade Union But after all the strength of the Trade Union is limited. Now they have become jobless labourer. Gauhati is developing as a city. I find many people from Upper Assam are coming here and residing here.

Near about my own home there is a number of new entries who have constructed their houses and residing. To which ever family I go I find a boy servant and a maid servant. I am rather surprised as how these people can maintain two servants. I was told that they are tea gardens and they are ex-tea garden labourers. I asked them 'what is the pay'? They said 'no pay' is necessary, only food and clothing'. The parents who built this industry of ours, because they have now no land, no job, have been practically compelled to abandon their children. They cannot feed thme and they are sending their children to serve as domestic servant. That is the lot of our working people. Then what happens? Our Government, our Ministers are encouraging it. They are not our Minister sons. If they go for any service they are told there is no service. But if a Minister's son is there then there will be competition between these companies to give him a service.

If somebody gives him Rs 500/- another will try to have him and offer him Rs 1000/—

Why ? Because by giving the job to the Minister's son (interruptions) I am giving an instance. Government is a continuous thing. Amongst the present Ministers there may be none. Why should I come to these personal things. I am only saying the theory. If I am a Minister and if I have a son and if my son is already in service in a private concern say at Tinsukia at Rs. 600 a month, then another Company may come and say "Well, Sir, will you kindly allow your son to help our company by his gracious, very-valuable company at a salary of Rs. 1100/- ?" What for does he want my son ? because he wants certain concessions. Ministers do not know many things. But these little things which the Ministers know let them not pretend that they do not know. If you arouse me to that height, I will not spare. I may speak out some very unsavoury things. I have purposefully with-held these things knowing it well you know to whom I am referring. At any rate with what I was concerned was

what happened with the Tea Estate. There is a line of T. Es. in Cachar named Gambhira Tea Estate. They have got nine gardens in three divisions. This Gambhira division has three gardens, and these three gardens were purchased at only 5 lakhs of rupees. What happened after that ? Some lands has been settled with 388 people, and the salami raised by one garden alone is Rs. 3,00,456/-. Apart from that after taking the salami for every bigha of land they are charging Rs. 3/- as rent. I am saying all these things not from hearsay. I have got all these documents. On the basis of these documents I am saying that they take the money, issue an unstamped receipt like this one : Received from Shri Chandra Sekhar Rs. 1000/- only what for they do not write. After the receipt of this salami they take the rent. Thereafter a kabuliat is made and he is made a tenant. The salami realised by this way in one garden out of ring of three gardens is Rs. 3,00,456/- with receipt. From 90 others they have

realised a further amount of Rs. 26075/- receipts are yet to be given. This Gambhira division has three gardens—Gambhira, Kaliraja and Olivia. I wish some labour leaders of Cachar brought it. (interruptions) Then they have got another division Chargola. This division has got three gardens. The Singlacherra, Manglacherra and Kalacherra. Now our Ministers are eager to know which son of which minister was appointed in this Singlacherra. I do not want to name the Minister because he is not here. This Singlacherra was once requisitioned by the Government, and, as a matter of fact, 4000 bighas were sought to be acquired for settling with landless people including landless ex-tea labourers. Then the owner came. He came with a petition that he is going to industrialise Assam, and he is going to start a Plywood factory, and, therefore, this land should be de-requisitioned. He also came with some presents – humble presents in the form of some ornaments and so on, and also offered with a little job of Assis-

tant Managership to the Minister's son. The job was accepted by the Minister's son, the land was de-requisitioned. A Plywood factory is there now — it is flourishing. Probably the Industries Minister would say there is no plywood factory, there is only a toy. The present Minister may say so, but at that time there was a fine Plywood factory and this land was de-requisitioned practically in lieu of a few pieces of ornaments and an Assistant Managership for the Minister's son. Not only the Plywood factory, but another industry was sought to be installed and that was a sugar mill and with the good offices of our Government a licence was also procured from the Government of India. After getting the requisite sugar mill licence it rotted in the box. The sugar mill was never started and the Government of India therefore withdrew the licence. The Government of India withdrew the licence but what happened to that 4000 bighas. The Melodrama is that since the Minister ceased to be a Minister, the Minister's son was kicked

out from the job. The Minister's son is no longer in service. So for the others the warning need not be given by me. The warning has been given already by this Gambhira T. E. that you are valuable only so long as you could serve these capitalists.

As soon as you become ineffective by not being a Minister they can throw you off as you throw off your torn out shoe. So, our public representatives are thrown off like the torn out shoes to be put on so long as they are of service.....

Shri Biswadev Sarma (Minister, Industries) :—
May I know from the hon. Member is there any law preventing the sale of land ?

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :— That is exactly where I am trying to come. That we are to put our heads together. I am just seeking your co-operation—we are offering our co-operation. Let us put our heads together and try to find out ways and means, legally or

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otherwise, legal pressure or social pressure or whatever, democratic measure may be, to see that these blood suckers may not suck the blood of the working people, the peasants.....

Mr. Deputy Speaker :— How much time will you take ?

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya :— Say about ten minutes more.

Mr. Deputy Speaker :— Shall we extend the House or sit on Monday ?

(Voices :— We sit on Monday, Sir).

ADJOURNMENT

The Assembly then adjourned till 10 A. M. on Monday, the 31st March, 1969.

Shillong

The 28th March, 1969

U. Tahbildar
Secretary,
Legislative Assembly, Assam

